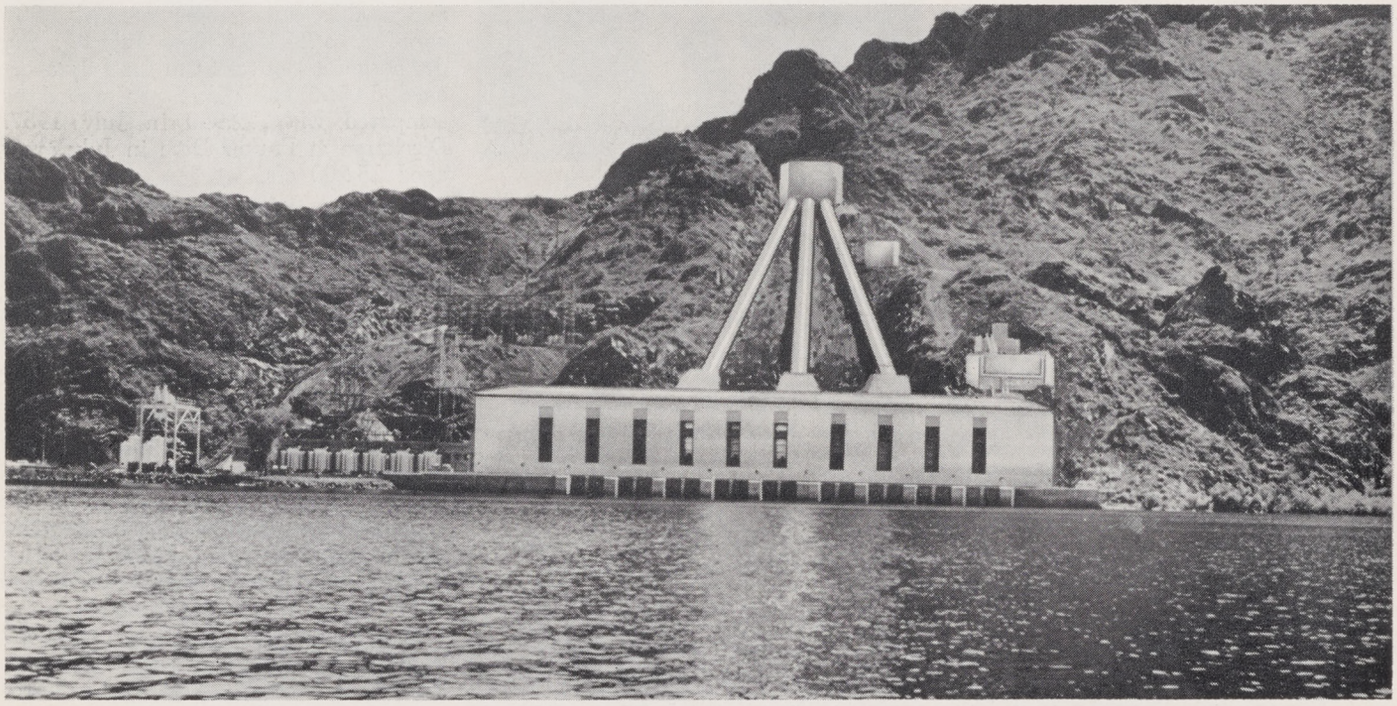
• COLORADO RIVER •

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XXV AUGUST, 1958 NUMBER 8



The installation of the third pump delivery line is progressing satisfactorily at all five pumping plants. Shown above is a view of Whitsett Intake Pumping Plant where the work of installing the third delivery line is essentially completed except for the cement mortar-lining and exterior painting. The work is being performed by Nicholson and Van Valkenburgh and is scheduled for completion at all five pumping plants by January 31, 1959.

District Board Votes No Increase In Tax Rate

There will be no increase in the tax rate of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for the coming year.

This was the decision made August 26 by the District Board of Directors when it voted to "hold the line" and keep the present District tax rate of 18¢ at the same level for the year 1958-59. The decision to make no increase in the District tax rate was made despite the fact that the District is engaged in a $200,000,000 aqueduct construction program to bring the giant Colorado River water line to its full ultimate capacity, it was pointed out by General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer. This construction program is being rushed forward, he stated, to meet a rapidly increasing demand for Colorado River water in Southern California.

Chairman Hugh W. Stiles, of the Board's Finance and Insurance Committee, pointed out that since 1946 the District's tax rate has been reduced from 50¢ to 18¢ in 1957. The Board's determination to authorize no tax rate increase this year resulted in its action to "hold the line," he said.

Of the 18¢ tax rate, 11¢ will be used to meet interest and principal payments on outstanding Colorado River Aqueduct bonds sold to finance, in its first development, construction of a giant water supply system from the Colorado River, Board Chairman Joseph Jensen stated. The remaining 7¢, he said, will be used to meet Federal Government and other obligations. All operating expenses are

(Continued on Page Two)

Main Aqueduct and San Diego Line Construction Work Starts

Excavation work for the expansion of the main Colorado River Aqueduct in the San Jacinto area and for the second San Diego Aqueduct was placed underway in unincorporated territory in Riverside County in August, according to Robert B. Diemer, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Water District.

The work will include nearly 20 miles of concrete-lined canals and more than 7 miles of pipe siphons. The siphons will have an inside diameter of 13-feet, and 13-feet 6-inches and both the siphons and canals will have a capacity of 1000 cubic feet of water per second. Most of the siphons and about 5 miles of canals will be on the main aqueduct.

(Continued on Page Three)

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306 West Third Street
Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

Vol. XXV August, 1958 No. 8

New District Facilities In Orange County Outlined

Since the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California began its expansion program in 1952, it has invested or has under contract more than $30,000,000 in new distribution facilities to deliver more Colorado River water to Orange County, Robert B. Diemer, District General Manager and Chief Engineer, declared this month. He pointed out that this does not include the construction work in other counties and a $70,000,000 expansion program on the main Aqueduct also required to bring additional water to Orange County.

"The expansion of the main Aqueduct to its full capacity will benefit Orange County as well as the other areas in the Metropolitan Water District." Mr. Diemer said. "The main Colorado River Aqueduct, which is 242 miles in length, extends from its intake above Parker Dam on the Colorado River to Lake Mathews, 10 miles southwest of Riverside. The entire aqueduct system is 621 miles in length."

The section of the lower feeder now under construction in Orange County will extend westerly from the District's control tower in the lower end of Santa Ana Canyon along the foothills north of Yorba Linda and then along Deodara Street, Ocean Avenue and Imperial Highway to a juncture with the existing section of the lower feeder near La Habra Road and Imperial Highway, Mr. Diemer said. This line will extend through parts of Brea, La Habra and Fullerton and will be more than 14 miles in length.

Distribution facilities already completed under the expansion program and now delivering Colorado River water to Orange County areas include the pipeline from Corona del Mar Reservoir to Coast Boulevard in Newport Beach; the West Orange County Feeder near Anaheim, Garden Grove, Buena Park and Fullerton; and the Santiago lateral in unincorporated territory.



DIRECTOR ROBERT E. AUSTIN
10 Years on District Board

Director Robert E. Austin, who is one of the representatives of the West Basin Municipal Water District on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, this month became eligible for his 10-year service pin.

Mr. Austin is the senior representative from the West Basin MWD, having served on the District Board since the West Basin annexed to the District in 1948. He is a former president of the West Basin MWD and is now a member of the Board of Directors of that District.

He is a graduate of Northwestern State College in Alva, Oklahoma, and has been engaged in the practice of law in Los Angeles since 1913.

On the District Board, Mr. Austin is Vice-Chairman of the Organization and Personnel Committee and a member of the Finance and Insurance Committee.

No Tax Increase

(Continued from Page One)

being paid from the District's water revenue, Mr. Jensen pointed out.

All charges on Colorado River Aqueduct bonds and other aqueduct costs are being paid by taxpayers and water users in the Metropolitan Water District, Chairman Jensen said. He pointed out that no Federal subsidies of any kind are being received to help pay for any part of the aqueduct water supply.

Cities and areas within the District are not required to meet assessments made against them from taxes but may pay these charges, if they choose, from water or other revenues, Chairman Jensen pointed out. He stated that Glendale,

(Continued on Page Three)

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed August, 1958 covering District operations for July, 1958).

Colorado River—The water surface of Lake Mead rose 0.46 feet to elevation 1205.89 feet above sea level and usable storage increased 69,000 acre-feet to 24,829,000 acre-feet on July 7, and then dropped 2.50 feet to elevation 1203.39, and usable storage decreased 371,000 acre-feet to 24,458,000 on July 31. The discharge at Hoover Dam for July averaged 14,500 cubic feet per second as compared with 12,990 in July 1957. Discharge at Parker Dam in July averaged 15,200 cfs.

Pumping and Power—Hayfield plant pumped 53,991 acre-feet during July. Pumping was continuous with four pumps and a fifth pump operating intermittently. The Edison system, Hoover power plant and Parker-Davis system were continuously in parallel with the District except for one minute on the Parker-Davis system. The District's share of Parker energy in July was 31,076,999 kwhrs, all of which was used in the District system. Edison interchange energy delivered to the District was 25,920,000 kwhrs. Peak deliveries to and from Edison Co. were 88,000 kwhrs and 115,000 kwhrs, respectively.

Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant—Colorado River water was softened from 306 ppm of hardness to 181 ppm at an average rate of 445 cfs during July. Daily rate of flow varied from between 284 and 531 cfs.

Construction—Construction work on the distribution system progressed as follows: Schedule 62P (Culver City Lateral) work is 90% complete; Schedules 63P and 64P (Culver City Lateral) work was accepted as completed on July 31; Schedules 76SC, 77SC and 78SC (Lower Feeder) the contract is 34% complete; Schedules SD-8P and SD-9P (San Diego Aqueduct) the contract is 25% complete; Schedules SD-10P and SD-11SC (San Diego Aqueduct) the contract is 2% complete.

Pumping Plant Expansion—The contract on installation of Pumping Units 7, 8 and 9 is 20% complete; Pump Delivery Line No. 3 is 73% complete.

Siphon work on main aqueduct—Contracts 669 and 672—are 75% complete.

Purchasing—During July 467 purchase orders and 9 agreements were issued, with a total expenditure of $152,127.



DIRECTOR RICHARD S. HOLMGREN
5 Years on District Board

Director Richard S. Holmgren, one of the representatives of the San Diego County Water Authority on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District, this month received his 5-year service pin for service on the Board.

Mr. Holmgren, who is General Manager and Chief Engineer of the San Diego County Water Authority, became a member of the District Board in 1953, succeeding Joseph L. Burkholder.

Director Holmgren joined the Authority in 1945. He had previously been responsible for the planning of a number of water supply systems in New England and served as Chief Engineer of the New Hampshire Water Resources Board from 1935 to 1942.

On the District Board, Mr. Holmgren is a member of the Engineering and Operations Committee and of the Organization and Personnel Committee.

No Tax Increase

(Continued from Page Two)

Pasadena, San Diego and Burbank next year will levy no taxes to meet their District obligations, but will pay all these charges from their water or other revenues. Other District areas that will pay a part of their assessments from water revenues are Culver City, National City, Inglewood, Pomona, and the South Bay Irrigation District in San Diego County, it was stated.

Covering an area of 3198 square miles and including 83 incorporated cities and much unincorporated territory, the Metropolitan Water District now has an assessed valuation of more than twelve billion dollars ($12,000,000,000) and a population of about 7,000,000, it was pointed out by Chairman Jensen.

Directors and Employees To Be Honored For Service

A Twenty-five-Year Service Luncheon in honor of Directors John M. Ramboz and Victor H. Rossetti and thirty District employees, who will have completed 25 years of service between January 1, 1957 and December 31, 1958, will be held in the Garden Room of the Statler Hotel on October 14.

Director Ramboz, who will complete his 25 years of public service on the District Board on September 29, and Director Rossetti, who will reach the quarter-century mark of service on October 13, will be the first two District Directors to have completed 25 years of service on the Board. Both Directors have served as Chairman of the Board and are still serving with distinction on a number of Board committees.

By the end of this year a total of 48 employees or former employees will have rendered 25 years of service to the District. A previous luncheon honoring the 20 employees who would have earned their 25-year service pins by December 31, 1956 was held on April 17, 1956. This group of 20 will also be invited to attend the October 14 luncheon.

Members of the Board of Directors and their wives will be invited to the luncheon, as will the wives or husbands of the employees being honored.

New Construction Work

(Continued from Page One)

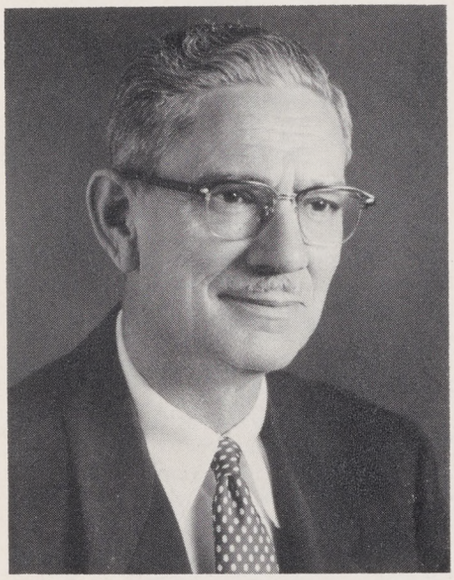
The District had previously awarded two contracts for pipeline construction on the San Diego line extending from the end of the canal in Auld Valley to a point 5.9 miles into San Diego County. These two contracts call for the construction of approximately 18 miles of 75-inch pipeline. This makes a total of about 33 miles of the Second San Diego Aqueduct being built and financed by the Metropolitan Water District. The San Diego County Water Authority is building and financing the southerly portion of the aqueduct to convey Colorado River water to the desired locations in San Diego County.

Areas and cities for which additional Colorado River water will be made available by the new aqueduct construction work are within the San Diego County Water Authority, the Eastern Municipal Water District and the Western Municipal Water District of Riverside County.



Trench excavation and pipe laying on the most southerly portion of the second San Diego Aqueduct being constructed by the Metropolitan Water District is pictured above. This work consists of the laying of 75-inch inside diameter welded steel pipe which will have a capacity of 500 cubic feet of water per second. This portion of the line is located about 4 miles east of Fallbrook and will connect near this point with the portion of the San Diego line being constructed by the San Diego County Water Authority.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



Eugene V. Reynolds—25 Years of Service

Eugene V. (Gene) Reynolds became eligible for his 25-year service pin on August 1, 1958 having first been employed by the District as a Mechanic in the Los Angeles garage on August 1, 1933. Gene was placed in charge of all Los Angeles garage operations in 1934.

He was away from the District on Military Leave from 1942 to 1945 during which time he was automotive adviser attached to the 37th Coast Artillery Brigade.

Gene returned to the District in his former capacity upon completion of his war service. Since 1953 he has been Superintendent of Transportation in responsible charge of all transportation equipment on the District's entire system.

* * *

The Iron Mountain Squares and Squaws Square Dance Club held its graduation party on July 28 in the Recreation Hall. All members passed with flying colors and were presented with diplomas. Refreshments were served and door prizes were given out and a large number of guests from Gene Camp and Lost Lake attended the party. Instructor and caller for the square dances is "Griff" Griffey who is stationed at Iron Mountain and works on Aqueduct Maintenance.

* * *

Phillip J. Osborne, Utility Man at the Softening Plant, and Roberta Rae Garman were married on August 1 at 8:00 p.m. in the Church of the Brethren at La Verne. A reception was held following the nuptial ceremony.

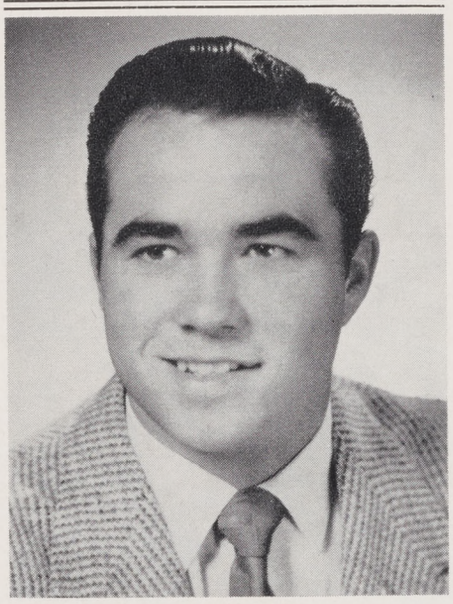
Marvin L. Holt, Maintenance Helper at Gene Camp, and his wife are the proud parents of a baby girl born July 6 in Parker, Arizona. The new arrival weighed 7 pounds and has been named Judy Lynn.

* * *

Robert Hill Morris, Carpenter Foreman at Gene Pumping Plant, and Donnaly Waltrip, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Weidel, of Gene Camp, were united in marriage at the Philadelphia Street Community Methodist Church in Pomona on July 21. They were attended by the groom's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lightner of Chino. The Reverend Frank Ryerson officiated.

* * *

The M.W.D. "Ducts" have closed out a highly successful softball season. Playing in the La Verne Softball League they finished second, winning 4 games and losing 2. They also won a post-season tournament playoff, winning both of their scheduled games.



John Francis Snideman

John Francis Snideman, upon his recent graduation from Elsinore Union High School, received the Bausch & Lomb Scientific Award Medal for outstanding work in the field of science. He also was presented with the Outstanding Senior Boy Award trophy for 1958 and, in addition, earned a life membership in the California Scholarship Federation.

John was awarded a 4 to 5-year scholarship at any college of his choice, and plans to attend Brigham Young University this Fall. John is the son of Patrolman Herman A. Snideman who has been with the District 22 years.



Joseph A. Reider—25 Years of Service

Joseph A. Reider was first employed by the District on August 22, 1933, as a Lineman on the Construction Power System. He became a Foreman in 1940 just prior to his transfer to the Pumping System, where he took over the operation and maintenance work on the 230-kv transmission line and telephone system. In 1942 he became Chief Patrolman, and for about one year, in addition to the duties of Chief Patrolman, he assumed direct charge of the work of installing overhead ground wires on 237 miles of 230,000 volt transmission line.

In 1951 he became the Superintendent of Transmission and Telephone Systems, and with this position, which he now holds, he assumes full charge of the operation of the Pumping System during the absence of the Superintendent of Pumping Plants.

* * *

Kenneth Strout, 3-year old son of Walter Strout, Maintenance Man at Lake Mathews, took a bad tumble recently while hiking over Switchback Trail in the Edward R. Hickey State Park at Liggett, California. A part of the trail gave way under the guard rail causing Kenneth to roll under the rail and down to the floor of the canyon. Cuts required 24 stitches and he suffered a number of bruises but there were no broken bones or internal injuries.

* * *

Bill Goodman, Maintenance Helper at Lake Mathews, and his wife are the parents of a baby girl who arrived July 22. The young lady weighed 5 pounds and has been named Kristy Mary Louise.